

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner's Action has been received and reviewed by counsel for Assignee. In that Action all claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious based upon *Rose*, U.S. Patent 5,708,709, in view of additional references cited.

By this response counsel has canceled all pending claims and submits herewith new claims 18-32 which are believed to patentably distinguish the cited references. In particular, counsel has clarified the claims to require that client information not be provided to the licensing-issuing computer. This provides increased assurance of privacy of the user's input data, limiting storage in the licensing-issuing computer to only data involving the license and the particular software involved.

In counsel's review of the cited references, this feature was not found. Should the Examiner be aware of it in any of the cited references, additional clarification is requested.

In view of the foregoing, counsel for Assignee believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-324-6303 (direct).

Respectfully submitted,



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